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(54) Title: **METHOD OF TREATING DIABETES**

(57) **Abstract:** The invention features methods for the treatment of diabetes by administering a IAP nucleic acid sequence to a subject. One method includes the steps of. (a) providing one or more insulin-producing cells or one or more precursor cells capable of producing progeny cells that produce insulin; (b) transducing the cells with a nucleic acid sequence encoding an IAP polypeptide, the nucleic acid sequence positioned for expression of the IAP polypeptide in the cells, wherein expression of the IAP polypeptide increases survival of the cells relative to untreated control cells; and (c) transplanting the cells from step (b) that have been transduced with a nucleic acid sequence encoding an IAP polypeptide into the individual, wherein the cells produce insulin in amounts sufficient to treat diabetes in the individual.